

It is indeed a sad and a pitiful thing to see ability gone astray; talent squandered upon phrasemaking; genius thrown into the lap of the harlot. The more

GENIUS

DEBAUCHED. potentially able a man is, the more unpleasant is the spectacle of his alliance with the undesirable portion of the community. Dr. G. Frank Lydston, of Chicago, has gone out of his way to effect an alliance with the nostrum interests and to use his ability as a writer to help bolster up their failing cause of unrighteousness. The many "undesirable citizens" who have amassed fortunes out of the medical profession by the simple means of promoting nostrums, have fought in vain against the slow but sure work of the Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry of the American Medical Association. They have done everything in their power to create discord in the House of Delegates of that body. They have even had their own paid representatives elected as delegates with the deliberate object of creating dissension. But it has all been unavailing. The widely published attacks upon the Association (they have cost a lot of money; did the Proprietary Association put it up?) have done but little except to bring into closer harmony the great big majority of the A. M. A. This they have fully appreciated and so it has occurred to them as the last possible chance of creating discord, to attack the Secretary of the A. M. A., who is also the editor of the much hated *Journal* of the Association. And poor old Lydston had to go back a quarter of a century to find anything material upon which to base an attack that might have been bitter, were it not spoiled by his childish desire to turn a "cute" phrase and express his own unbounded admiration for himself. What a man has done—his record—means nothing in a partisan fight like this attack on Dr. Simmons. It means nothing to these throwers of manufactured mud that the *Journal* of the Association has come to be, in the last ten years, and under Dr. Simmons' management, the foremost medical publication in the world. It means nothing to these gentlemen (Heaven save the world!) that the Association has grown and thrived beyond the fondest dreams of those who helped its reorganization less than a decade ago. But it does mean much to this coterie that, with growth and prosperity, has come an ability to attack fraud and dishonesty and trickery, and to put out of business many a fake nostrum and many a fraudulent proprietary whose only worth was in the value of its advertising. And it is with the ranks of the fakes and the frauds that Lydston joins in attacking the Association, through its Secretary and Editor. The downfall of a possibly great man is a pitiable thing; there is no antagonism against Dr. Simmons raised by such obvious attacks; only pity for Dr. Lydston.

Time will probably convince the most skeptical, if there be any with grave doubts, that the amalgamation of the Medical School of the University of Southern California (a sectarian institution) with the University of California is a notable

NOTABLE ADVANCE.

step forward, not alone for the Southern medical school, but also for medical education in the state and for the State University. A graduate from Berkeley, now studying law at Harvard, writes a personal letter on the subject from which we can not resist the desire to quote a few sentences:

"We have a pretty long coast line within which to concentrate public interest on any one institution. . . . People do not feel a great interest in something five hundred miles away whose influence can not touch them. But there is no better effect than knowing that the finest and most up-to-date institution near them is a living part of a larger organization which stands as an activity of the whole state. We needed something in Southern California very much, which would remind people of the underlying unity in higher and professional education. It will tend in the long run to make the Tehachapi less of a barrier to those who feel that the interests of both sides can not remain in common. I feel that all who are interested in the progress of either or both will extend mutual congratulations for an important step."

We understand that the present senior class will receive diplomas from the University of Southern California, but that subsequent classes will receive the diploma from the state institution at Berkeley. Just how the many details will work out, of course no one can say. But that both the medical department in the North and the one in the South will benefit, seems a very strong probability. Interest in the state institution is now brought close home to the legislators from the South—and the Southern delegation has always been a very strong one in our legislature. Surely, one can scarcely imagine a more satisfactory way for the expenditure of general funds than the upbuilding of the state's machinery for higher education and for the benefit of the entire people of the state. Probably there will be a falling off of students in the Southern medical school, for two or three years, or until the newly created standards requiring two years to be spent in general university courses of a pre-medical nature, but after that period the school should take on a new lease of life and its classes and its work should materially increase and improve. One word of suggestion—probably unnecessary—we would give to those in control of the Southern school; hunt out well prepared young men and work them into the school. There are plenty such only waiting for an opportunity; let them have it.

Under date of February, 1909, Leland Stanford Junior University puts out a preliminary announcement of its Department of Medicine, founded as Cooper Medical College. The taking over of Cooper Medical College by Stanford University, is a notable event for our state and for medical education in general. The plan adopted by most, if not all university medical departments, is here to be followed, and at least three years of